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JULIUSIAL SEMINARY

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THE

Missionary Magazine

AND

CHRONICLE.

MADAGASCAR.

THE additional intelligence received from Madagascar, during the past month, continues to supply motives and encouragements to prompt and vigorous exertions in sending out Christian Teachers to the emancipated and rejoicing people by whom they are intensely desired; and by the time that our present Number is in the hands of our readers, six devoted Missionaries will be on the eve of their departure to join the Rev. Wm. Ellis in that interesting field of labour.

The Rev. J. J. Le Brun returned from Antananarivo to Mauritius on the 11th of January, his departure having been hastened by an attack of fever, from which he suffered during his stay. No report of his visit has yet been received; but we have reasons for concluding that it agrees substantially with the intelligence which has reached us through other channels.

By the last mail further details have been received from the Rev. Wm. Ellis, dated Mauritius, February 5th. The letter of our friend is too long and too minute for insertion; but in the passages selected, which will be found below, the friends of the Society will be gratified to find a full corroboration of his previous communications.

"From David Johns I received much explicit information respecting the Christians, and the encouragement afforded them by the King and some of the high officers. The Commander-in-Chief is very favourable; he has given the Christians a house near his own residence for a chapel; and some of the female members of his family are very sincere Christians. Letters recently received from the capital state that the King has walked at the head of a large procession of Christians, from a palace in the suburbs to his residence in the city, and that, at his request, the Christians sang all the way.

"The statements made personally by the King to David Johns, and the explicit assurances of the Christians in their latest letters, exclude the slightest ground for doubt as to the wishes of the King and the people that the Missionaries should come as soon as possible, and that they will be cordially welcomed. In regard to the

proceedings of the Native Christians, the King recommended them not to make any change in their modes of worship or organization till Mr. Ellis and the Missionaries came to tell them what to do.

"The Christians are active, energetic, and grateful for their wonderful deliverance, feeling their way in ecclesiastical matters. Their numbers have greatly increased since the accession of the King to the throne. Their desire after books is great—the neophytes for elementary books, the advanced Christians for the entire Bible. They said to David Johns, 'Tell Mr. Ellis we wish he was here to talk with the King; but tell him not to be anxious or afraid on our account: we shall be firm; we cannot be turned from the English, or from the faith and practice taught in the Bible. Tell him not to fear that we shall listen to what the priests say, or encourage them. But tell him we want Missionaries, and printers and press, speedily; that we shall keep on in our past way till he and the Missionaries come to tell us how to proceed, and how to help the word of God to grow.'

"The King seems to be walking in the steps of Radama I. as closely as he can. He has ordered schools to be established, as soon as Teachers can be provided, in all the villages in which schools were opened by the late King. He has abolished the ordeal by Tangena. He has made it a rule that all who appear before him shall do so in European clothes. He has encouraged the study of English to the utmost extent, having made it the diplomatic language of his government. In this respect the people share fully in his preference. As an illustration, I may mention that when Mr. Le Brun began to pray in French, before one of the large congregations on the Lord's Day, the Native Minister stopped him and requested him to pray in English, as the people liked the English language; and he consequently did so. I have no doubt I shall find the English dictionaries which I brought out valuable, and I would suggest the desirableness of your sending out a number of English spelling books, with some English lessons.

"Two young Hova officers came over with David Johns to see some relatives living in Mauritius. They are intelligent, amiable young men, one a member of a Native Church. Their first object was to inquire for an English schoolmaster. I have, much to their satisfaction, arranged with a pious master of one of the government schools to teach them our language one hour a day at his own residence, and I shall have them, if I can, one day each week with myself, to mark their progress and help them on.

"In connection with this earnestness after a knowledge of the English language, I received from David Johns a MS. book—a sort of Malagasy and English vocabulary, with an extensive collection of sentences as exercises. They have been the lessons of three young nobles, who, on my former visit, were sent by the late Queen to conduct me to the capital, and I saw them frequently afterwards. These young men have sent the MS. to be printed, to assist their countrymen in acquiring English.

"It appears that the King sent for David Johns more than once, and questioned him very freely about the religious proceedings of the Christians in Mauritius, and whether the people were contented and happy, as well as rich; and said he wished to be friendly with all foreigners, but to be specially united with the English—that if he had a treaty of friendship with the English he should feel contented.

"On the day on which the last mail arrived, the Governor of Mauritius informed me that he had that day received a despatch accompanying an autograph letter

from Her Majesty to Radama, and announcing that suitable presents were in preparation. I was also informed that the Governor would send the letter from Queen Victoria to Madagascar by the 'Orestes,' a ship of war just arrived from Mozambique. I had been offered a passage in the first Government ship, and had declined to go at present, as the fever was severe; I was, however, also assured that a passage would be given to any messenger whom I might wish to send to the capital with letters. I therefore solicited a passage for D. Johns, which was most cheerfully granted, and the Governor wrote a letter, introducing him to the local governor as the bearer of letters from me to the King, and requesting that he might accompany the bearer who might be sent with the Queen's letter to Antagasariyo.

"I wrote to the King, and also to his secretary, informing them of my arrival here and inability to proceed on account of the prevalence of the fever, but that I should come as soon as possible: I also offered my congratulations and such counsels as seemed most needed, and informed them of the preparations the Directors were making to send out Missionaries, including a medical man, a printer, and a training master, as soon as the season suitable for their entering the country should arrive. To all the Pastors in the capital I wrote at length, conveying the assurance of the undiminished interest of their friends in England-of the arrangements the Directors were making to send wise and good Missionaries to help them to carry forward, with the utmost efficiency, the great work in Madagascar to which the Lord Jesus Christ, by the interpositions of His providence in their favour, had called them, viz. : the spreading of the Gospel over the whole land; exhorting them to observe the purity and simplicity of Christian profession, in the days of prosperity and favour now enjoyed, which had marked their season of proscription and suffering; not to be drawn into any controversy, but to hold on their Christian way without altering their mode of procedure, or attempting any new organization, till we should come.

"Three or four sets of communion services would be very acceptable, could any of our generous congregations be persuaded to give them for the Churches in the capital. They have only the service given by Dr. Archer's congregation some years since. I have not the slightest doubt that the friends of the Society will furnish you with these, and also with ample means for resuming the Mission in Madagascar with the utmost practicable efficiency."

MUNIFICENT CHRISTIAN OFFERING FOR THE SUPPORT OF MISSIONS IN MADAGASCAR.

OUR readers will find, in the List of Contributions, a generous donation of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS, from a friend, who wishes his name to remain unknown, designed to aid in the great enterprise of spreading the Gospel among the four millions of Madagascar. The liberal donor earnestly desires that his gift may not supersede, but rather stimulate the liberality of others, and the Directors most earnestly hope that such may be the happy result.

The outlay attendant upon the recommencement of the Mission will be

great—very great; and the permanent expenditure cannot be less than £2000 per annum. In addition to direct Missionary service, heavy expenses will be incurred in the establishment of the contemplated Hospital, the Printing Establishment, and the Training Institution for Native Teachers. We trust, therefore, that the friends of education and benevolence will be found willing to afford their aid for these important auxiliary branches of the Madagascar Mission.

Donations of Hardware, Cutlery, Stationery, &c., will be acceptable, and most gratefully received.

CHINA.

SHANGHAE.

THE usual Annual Reports have arrived from several of our Chinese Missions, all of which are encouraging, but want of space limits our insertion to that of Shanghae. It will be seen that, notwithstanding the many interruptions which the labours of our Brethren in that city and neighbourhood have suffered from the lawless incursions of the insurgents, they have nevertheless been favoured with many accessions to the number of their converts, which, including the surrounding Stations, amounts to 180. The state of Shanghae, however, at the present moment, is one of painful interest. The rebel forces have gathered around it in numbers almost incredible, and publicly declare their intention of attacking the city. On the other hand, the united forces of Britain and France are prepared to act with decision in its defence; and, looking at the want of military science and discipline on the part of the insurgents, in contrast with the European forces, the inhabitants of Shanghae feel but little anxiety for the result. We trust that, through the gracious and almighty interposition of God, the actual conflict may yet be averted, and that the myriad of lives which would inevitably be sacrificed may be mercifully spared.

"Shanghae, January, 9th 1862.

"Dear Brother,—The past year has been marked by the extension of the Mission into various parts. Mr. Edkins has removed to Tien-tsin, Messrs. John and Wilson to Hankow, and Dr. Lockhart has commenced his labours in Peking. These Brethren will correspond with you in regard to their respective fields, which we are glad to learn are all highly encouraging.

CITY CHAPELS.

"Fo-yin-whei-dong, (Evangelical Church,) is situated in the heart of the city of Shanghae, about a mile from our Mission Compound, and is on a street where there is the greatest thoroughfare. Its size is sixty feet long by thirty feet broad. It is epened twice every Sunday, and once at least every day of the week. The Native

Church meets there every Sabbath forenoon at eleven o'clock, when special instruction is given to the members. They assemble again in the afternoon at half past two o'clock, when the doors are open to all comers. It is then usually throughd, the average attendance being from 250 to 300. On the other days it is from 100 to 150. The number of members in all is 70. During the year seventeen have been received.

"Le-pai-dong, (Hall for Religious Worship.) This was our first chapel, and it is situated midway between the north and eastern gates of the city. It is contiguous to the tea-gardens, the most frequented place of amusement, and, previous to their occupation by the French soldiers, our chapel was well situated for large congregations. We intend to make various alterations in the building, and when the French vacate the opposite gardens, we know the chapel will be again largely attended. At present, service is held daily in one of the front rooms, at which there is an average attendance of 100 persons.

"Tien-an-dong, (Heavenly-rest Church.) This building is in our Mission Compound. It was formerly called the London Mission Chapel, and used for English service only, every Sunday morning at half past nine, and in the evening at six o'clock. It was well attended by Missionaries and foreign residents. The services were conducted by different Protestant Missionaries in turn. The old building was recently taken down, and a new one is in course of erection, where Chinese services will also be conducted, and a new Church formed, composed of members living outside the city.

"The Chinese Hospital has hitherto been on ground to the west of our Mission premises, but it is now being removed to the eastern portion, on the side of the public road, which is altogether a more advantageous position. The Annual Report of the Hospital, by Dr. Henderson, is about to be published, from which you will learn that the aggregate number of patients, or separate visits, during the year, was 38,000. To all these the Gospel was preached from day to day by a Native Christian, with the frequent assistance of one or other of our Missionaries. The same plan will be pursued when the new Hospital is opened.

COUNTRY STATIONS.

"Sung-Keang is a large city, distant forty miles from Shanghae, in a southerly direction. The Church there was commenced by Mr. John, and was formerly in a prosperous condition. The rebels, however, have destroyed a large portion of the place, so that the people and the Church Members have to a great extent been scattered. The Native Teacher who laboured here, went with Mr. J. to Hankow, but is expected to return soon. At present the few remaining Christians meet every Sabbath day for religious service. The number on the list of members is 38; two of these have been kidnapped by the rebels, and 25 at least have fled into the country for safety.

"Tse-so is a small city about twenty miles to the south-east of Shanghae. A small room is occupied for daily preaching and meeting of the Church on Sundays. A Native Brother, Tsung-tsz-chéén, is stationed here, who does his work well, and is occasionally visited by one of us. The Church comprises 21 individuals, of whom 17 have been admitted during the year. In addition, ten or twelve are applying for baptism. The daily audiences consist of 40 to 50, while the Agent also visits a number of towns and villages in the country.

"Tso ka-zah comprises a number of hamlets, about four miles distant, and the Church there is composed of poor female members, engaged in country work. In all thirty-eight have been baptized, of whom four have died, and six have left. About half of the remainder are in connection with the Church in Shanghae. They meet in a room hired for the purpose every Sunday, when a Native Christian Exhorter, and at times one of our number, is present with them.

"Lin-ka-ong is a town fourteen miles to the west of Shanghae, and is entirely under rebel rule. The Native Church here has long been in a prosperous state. Though the place where they meet is often visited by the rebels, the members are not troubled by them, except in connection with their usual course of plunder and devastation. A Native Brother, Tsang-tse-tih, is stationed here, and the number of Church Members on the list is 44, of whom 24 have been admitted during the year. There are ten or twelve now applying for baptism. A school of 24 boys, under the Native Exhorter's brother, is in operation at this place. We should like to see a place of worship built here, but we fear that the present state of things is unfavourable to its being done.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

"Collections are made in the Shanghae Church, nearly every Lord's day, and other special subscriptions are raised for the support of the poorer members; and the practice is encouraged at all the Stations.

INCREASE.

"In the city and the country 68 persons have been baptized in the course of the year. Not a few of these, we trust, have been gathered into the fold of Christ; and with regard to members of long standing, a considerable number have made progress in Christian faith and character.

STATISTICS.

"European Missionaries, 3; Native Assistants, 6; Churches in Shanghae, 2; Preaching Stations and Churches in country, 4; Adults baptized, 326; died in the faith, 12; Church Members scattered by the rebellion, 50; present Adult Members, 180; increase in membership during the year, 68.

REMARKS.

"These statistics have been drawn from the continuous records of the Mission, in so far as native baptisms and membership are concerned. Dr. Medhurst baptized the first convert on February 6th, 1847. It may be necessary to state that one reason why so many appear to have left the Church is this—that Shanghae is largely resorted to for trading purposes, and numbers come and go without any certainty of their stay. Often members return to this place after being absent for years, and it is gratifying to see in some cases that they have retained their religious impressions when far away. Though our Mission prospects have been greatly heightened during the past year by the opening of various new ports, and the influx of new population here, our itinerant work has been greatly hindered in the surrounding country by the presence and operations of the rebels.

"I am, dear Brother,
"Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) "WILLIAM MURHEAD.

"REV. DR. TIDMAN."

POLYNESIA.

VOYAGES OF THE "JOHN WILLIAMS."

THE voyages of the Missionary Ship in the South Pacific, during the past year, have been full of interest and importance. The Rev. A. W. Murray, who was one of the founders of the Samoan Mission in the year 1836, was appointed by his Brethren to visit the several islands in which Missions are already established, and to ascertain the practicability of introducing the Gospel among many populous islands yet shrouded in heathen darkness.

His copious journal contains many important and instructive statements affecting the numerous islands which he visited, and from these we make a selection of the following:—Savage Island, and Eramanga. With regard to the former, the readers of our Magazine will be prepared, by the report of Dr. Turner's visit in 1859, for the cheering statements which we now transcribe from the journal of Mr. Murray:—

SAVAGE ISLAND.

"The 'John Williams' sailed from Apia for the Western Islands, on Monday the 12th of August. We had on board Mr. and Mrs. Lawes, proceeding to Savage Island, the sphere of labour to which they had been appointed. On the 13th, took on board Mr. Pratt and family, he having been appointed to accompany Mr. and Mrs. L. to their field of labour, to assist in the commencement of their work. We had on board an edition of 3000 of the Gospel of Mark, in the dialect of that island, which had been printed in Samoa. It was originally translated by the Samoan teachers labouring in that island, and afterwards revised and prepared for the press by Mr. Pratt, with the assistance of a native. It is the first attempt at the important work of Scripture translation by Native Teachers in Polynesia; and though it is no doubt imperfect, as indeed all first translations are, it will be a great boon to the people. On our arrival we found that the Teachers had gone on with the work of translation, and had completed the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, and were engaged with the Gospel of John.

"We made Savage Island on the 24th of August, a week from the time of our leaving Samoa. My last visit to the island was at the close of 1853, and at that time it was in much the same barbarous state as when it was discovered by Cook. Now, how changed—how marvellously changed! Strong representations have been given by those who have been privileged to visit the island of late years; hence our expectations were highly raised. We expected great things; nor were we disappointed. A wonderful work, indeed, is that which God has wrought on Savage Island. Of this the most convincing evidence met us wherever we went.

"Mr. Pratt, Mr. Lawes, and myself landed at Avatele, one of the principal Stations, occupied by Samuela, a Samoan Teacher. It is only about five years since this Station was commenced, and the progress that has been made is astonishing. The most prominent object at the Station is the chapel, truly a noble structure. I have not seen a place of worship, of purely native workmanship, equal to it, either in Eastern or Western Polynesia. It is 120 feet long by 36 broad, exclusive of a verandah, which extends all round the building; and, what is best of all, this spacious

structure is filled to overflowing every Sabbath, and also on Wednesdays. The congregation numbers eleven hundred. The present chapel was built in consequence of the old one, which is also a respectable building, having become too small, and which is now used as a school-house. Quite in keeping with the chapel and school is the Teacher's house. It is a plastered house, containing no less than seven rooms. The roof, like that of the chapel, is of beautiful workmanship. The rooms are furnished with sofas, chairs, tables, and bedsteads; they are of rather rude construction, but still highly creditable to the ingenuity and industry of the Teacher, by whom all have been made. We passed a pleasant night at Avatele, and on the following morning started to walk to Alofi, where we had appointed to meet the ship. It was the opinion of former visitors that Alofi, which is about eight miles distant from Avatele, is the most eligible place for the residence of the Missionary; and, after seeing both, we were led to concur in this opinion.

"We had an interesting walk: our way led us a considerable distance inland, so we had a good opportunity of seeing the country, which was covered with low stunted vegetation, vastly different from the rank luxuriance of Samoa. Clumps of trees, cocoa-nut, papau, apples, bananas, and taro and yam plantations diversify the scene, and every now and then a hut appears, indicating the presence of human beings. The native huts are miserable things; they are only about six feet from the floor to the ridge pole, and two and a half feet from the ground to the eaves. But they are being superseded by houses of a greatly superior character, after the Samoan model. The surface of the ground is covered with immense blocks of coral scattered about in wild confusion, as if at one time the whole had been under water. Other indications of this also appear, such as sea shells towards the interior of the island, and numerous caves, which appear to have been formed by the action of the sea. Nothing worth the name of a mountain appears. Travelling in former days must have been a formidable thing; now, however, a good road has been made all round the island.

"The Teacher called our attention to one very remarkable thing—a vein or stratum of lime about three feet below the surface of the ground. We saw several pits which had been dug, in order to get at the lime, which had been used in plastering the chapel at Avatele. How this lime was formed, it is difficult to conjecture; but there it is all ready for use, and in very large quantities.

"A most cordial greeting awaited us at Alofi, similar to what we had at Avatele. The people were ready to smother us with kindness. Old men and maidens, young men and little children, crowded upon us with every demonstration of gratitude and joy, and it was with difficulty we made our way through the crowd. The chapel and teacher's house at this Station are exactly similar to those at Avatele, only the chapel is somewhat smaller. As soon as the vessel got sufficiently near to communicate with the shore, the boats were despatched with our female friends and their children. There was quite a scene when the boats reached the shore. Hundreds of natives were assembled; with tumultuous joy they rushed upon the boats, and seized the ladies and children, bearing them off on their backs, or in their arms, as they happened to get hold of them.

"There are other three Stations on the island beside those already mentioned, each of which is occupied by a Samoan Teacher, and at all the state of things is similar. The Teachers reported to us one pleasing circumstance which deserves notice: the census of the present year shows an increase of 400 over the last.

Thus, the population now is 4700 instead of 4300, which it was when last numbered.

"Savage Island is a fine field on which to train teachers for Missionary work in Western Polynesia. Its own wants, as regards Teachers, will be easily met; and the people are such an energetic, enterprising race, that, when under Christian influence and suitably trained, they are likely to form very effective labourers in breaking up new ground, and preparing the way for Missionaries in their early labours.

"Having taken an affectionate farewell of our esteemed friends, we returned to the ship, and on the evening of Friday, the 23rd of August, we stood for Aneiteum."

It will be seen from the preceding statement that the object of the "John Williams" in visiting Savage Island was the introduction of Mr. and Mrs. Lawes, as the first European labourers among that interesting people; and the following letter, written by the newly arrived Missionary, expresses the joyful reception which he received, and the delightful prospects with which he commenced his labours.

"Alofi, Savage Island, October 17th 1861.

"REV. AND DEAR SIR, - I am glad to be able to tell you of our safe arrival at this place. We left Samoa on the 12th of August, accompanied by the Rev. G. Pratt and family, who were appointed by the Brethren of the Samoan Committee to introduce us to our future sphere of labour. We landed on the 20th of August. We were, indeed, heartily welcomed by the people, who were expecting their promised Missionary. The landing-place was crowded with hundreds of men and women, who were so eager to shake and smell our hands, that it was with difficulty we reached the Teacher's house. The people are very lively and energetic, and no doubt fully merited the name which Captain Cook gave them. We could not help contrasting the two landings-the present and the past. Now, they are all clothed, joyfully welcoming their Missionary-then, they were naked savages, rushing down like wild boars upon their visitors. We found a good house ready for us, which our female friends soon made a comfortable home. As soon as the excitement of our landing had subsided a little, a joyful sound broke upon our ears in the stillness of the evening hour. It was the voice of praise and prayer ascending from around the family altars of a people but fifteen years ago degraded savages. Although there was not much poetry in their hymns, or music in their song, it was a joyful sound to us; no Christian heart could hear it and remain unmoved.

"As soon as our good ship had gone, and I was able to look round upon my field of labour, I was amazed at the extent of the work already done. So far as I have been able to ascertain, there is not a vestige (outwardly) of heathenism remaining; all has crumbled away beneath the power of God's word. There are five good chapels on the island; one of them will hold 1100 people, but it is too small. They are fine specimens of native ingenuity; they have been built, of course, without European oversight; except in the doors, there is not a nail in the building: all is firmly tied together with cinnet. The teachers seem worthy men, and God has manifestly been with them in their work: of course, their knowledge is very limited, and the work to be done great and arduous. I am appalled when I think of the

work before me: may I not hope for help? The word of God has to be translated, and all this land cultivated for Christ.

"I can do but little until I get a thorough knowledge of the language. If anything will make a man learn a language, it is to be surrounded by a loving people thirsting for the word of God, and to be unable to speak to them. You will be glad to know that I have made a commencement in the native tongue; I conducted the Missionary Prayer Meeting, a fortnight ago, and gave an address in the native language. A Missionary Prayer Meeting in Savage Island is very different from a Missionary Prayer Meeting in England. All the people attend here; there could not have been less than 800 on either of the occasions we have witnessed. I have a class of fifteen young men, which I meet every week. They are remarkably quick and intelligent: I hope that at no distant day they will be usefully employed as assistant Teachers on their own island. I hope in my next letter to be able to give you some interesting information respecting the laws, customs, &c., which my limited knowledge of the language prevents my doing now.

"I am happy to say Mrs. Lawes and myself are both quite well; and, with kind

regards to Mr. Prout and yourself,

"I remain, dear Sir,
"Yours very truly,
(Signed) "W. G. LAWES.

"REV. DR. TIDMAN."

ERAMANGA.

This island, beyond all others visited by the "John Williams," has obtained a mournful notoriety from the barbarous murders perpetrated by its savage inhabitants upon WILLIAMS and HARRIS two and twenty years since, and very recently upon Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, who had nobly ventured to settle on its blood-stained shores. But, notwithstanding the shadow of death has rested so heavily upon this island, the friends of Missions will learn, from Mr. Murray's journal, that the prospects for the future are far from hopeless. It appears that the lamented death of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon was effected by a heathen chief, coming from a distance, and instigated to his murderous act by a wicked and abandoned stranger of the name of Rangi. Mr. G. had obviously cherished a misplaced confidence in his own security, and removed his residence a considerable distance from the people among whom he had previously lived, and by whom he was venerated and loved. These Christian natives, had they been present when the fatal attack was made, would have proved themselves his defenders, and when he fell, they wept over his remains, and that of his beloved wife, as children weep over the ashes of a father.

Another attempt will yet be made to replace the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon; and we trust that the sad experience of the past may be followed, through the Divine blessing, by the safety of the future devoted messenger of mercy, and the wide extension of the Gospel throughout Eramanga.

"We anchored in Dillon's Bay on the morning of Tuesday, September 11th. Varied and conflicting were our feelings as we sailed along the coast of this land of melancholy interest. Everything that met the eye, especially in the Bay, looked beautiful and lovely as of old; but the recollection of the sad scenes of May last cast a gloom over all. The sight of the unfinished house, especially, at which Mr. Gordon was working on the day of his death, and which was full in view, brought these scenes very vividly before us.

"We found in Aneiteum seventeen refugees whose lives had been in danger after the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, and who on that account had left the island. Among these were our old friends Joe and Mana, through whom we succeeded in past years in introducing Teachers to the island. They had been inmates of Mr. Gordon's family during the whole time of his residence in Eramanga, and besides, they are well acquainted with the Samoan language; hence it was important to have one of them in communicating with the Eramangans and in obtaining information relative to the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon. Joe was considered eligible for our purpose, so we had him with us. As soon as we got to anchor, he was sent on shore to ascertain the state of things. We were soon cheered by Joe's return with a company of Natives presenting a very different appearance from anything we had expected to see in Eramanga on the present occasion. They were all clothed, and had nothing in their appearance indicative of the degradation and ferocity which we are wont to associate with the natives of this island. We found that they were parties who had been attached to Mr. Gordon, and as they gathered around us, and manifested the depth of their grief by silent tears, some of us were ready to mingle our tears with theirs, while we rejoiced to witness proofs that some rays of light and some traces of life are still found in this land of darkness and the shadow of death. thought that, except the seventeen refugees whom we found at Aneiteum, the Eramangans were still heathen idolaters. How surprised and delighted, therefore, were we to find that instead of this there is a goodly number besides on whom the truth has manifestly made a considerable impression—who stand aloof from heathenism and keep up the worship of the true God on this dark and blood-stained shore. and who seem determined, at all hazards, to walk according to their light. number of those who thus adhere to Christianity it is impossible at present accurately to ascertain. There are ten-six men and four women-in the Bay; and at a place called Tapontamasi, in the neighbourhood, where Elia, a Samoan Teacher, laboured in former years, there is a considerable number, both men and women, who were in the habit of attending schools and services while Mr. Gordon was alive, and who assisted him in building his house. These we were unable to see, but they remain steadfast, observing the Sabbath and keeping up the worship of God as best they can. After our interviews with those who came on board, Mr. Geddie and I went on shore and satisfied ourselves that there was no risk in landing, and in the afternoon our whole party, consisting of Captain and Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Johnston, widow of our brother who died in Tana, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Geddie, and myself landed. We pulled up the memorable stream, near which Williams and Harris fell, to the printing office built by Mr. Gordon. It was a mournful sight to look upon this, and the press, which a few months since promised to be an effective auxiliary in diffusing the light of truth and the blessings of Christianity throughout this dark land. Years must pass before we again possess the facilities which existed a few months ago for the evangelization of Eramanga. But God will not forsake

His own work, the time will come to favour Eramanga, and its deeply degraded people will yet take their place among Christian nations, and stand forth clothed in the beauty of holiness, the sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty. While surveying the desolate-looking printing office, the sadness of the scene was heightened by women gathering round our female friends, grasping their hands, and manifesting the depth of their emotions by silent tears.

"From the printing-office we went to the grave of our martyred friends, which is close to the stream a little way lower down. There they rest in one grave, waiting the resurrection of the just. The spot is marked by a mound raised over the grave, and plastered with lime. Around this a friendly hand has planted a row of mulberry trees, and around all is a rude fence. We gathered pebbles and small pieces of coral from the grave, to carry with us as mementoes of the mournful scene, and left sad and sorrowful to return to the ship. For the sleepers within the peaceful inclosure it was useless to weep; but for Eramanga—poor Eramanga!—how could we feel otherwise than sad! God pity Eramanga, and speedily arise for her help!

"After returning to the ship we had an interview with Rauiaui and Waris, the chiefs of the Bay, and others who are friendly. The chiefs told us that the reason why Mr. and Mrs. G. had been killed was, the notion put into their heads by a man named Rangi, a native of Singapore, who had lived many years on the island, that the introduction of the measles to the island, and the mortality consequent thereupon, were caused by Mr. Gordon. Rangi is a notoriously wicked fellow, and he has managed to acquire an influence on the island, which makes him a most dangerous character. He owes his influence chiefly to the fact that he has nine wives, all daughters of chiefs in different parts of the island. Hence he is the most influential man on the island, and certainly he is the most dangerous. There will be no safety for Teachers or Missionaries while he occupies his present position on the island. He is a British subject, and so might be removed—perhaps we might say ought to be removed—by a British manof-war; and a greater service to the island it would not be easy to render than to rid it of the virtual murderer of its Missionary. Moreover, deeds of blood have been perpetrated or instigated by this man among the Eramangans themselves, the narration of which would make the reader's blood run cold.

"But to return to our conference with the chiefs. They and the people present declared it to be their conviction that if Mr. and Mrs. Gordon had remained in the Bay, instead of removing to a place two miles distant, and living alone, they would have been safe, notwithstanding the misrepresentations of Rangi, and the consequent anger of the people at a distance. In that case, they would have been among their friends, who would have stood by them and made common cause with them. That Mr. G. took the step referred to, is matter of universal regret among all his friends and the friends of the Mission. His reason for doing so was a conviction that it was necessary to the health of Mrs. Gordon.

"The chiefs and people declare themselves desirous of having Teachers and Missionaries again settled among them; but they recommend that nothing be attempted till another visit of the 'John Williams,' by which time the present excitement will have subsided, and the way will be open for recommencing the Mission."

INDIA.

VIZAGAPATAM.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF TWO HINDOO CONVERTS.

A LETTER of the Rev. J. W. Gordon, of Vizagapatam, inserted in our Magazine for February, contained an interesting report of the conversion of two Teloogoo youths, who had been brought out of the darkness of heathenism into the fellowship of Christ. The following statements, written by the young converts, and translated by Mr. Gordon, contain the interesting details of this blessed change; and the simplicity and truthfulness with which they are composed cannot fail to insure the confidence of the reader in their accuracy.

In the case of each convert we see the utter darkness and vacancy of the Hindoo mind under the influence of native superstitions. In idolatry there is nothing to awaken reflection, or to warm and satisfy the heart—outward forms and vain observances constitute the sum total of its requirements.

In the conversion of these youths, the value of Native Agency is also strikingly apparent, and we see how the grain of mustard-seed, though smaller than all seeds, becomes a great tree. A tract, or portion of Scripture, given to a thoughtless youth at a Hindoo festival, is made the power of God to his salvation; and the man of his own nation, redeemed from idolatry and superstition, takes the newly awakened inquirer by the hand—in accents of love speaks good words to him—unites with him in humble, earnest prayer to God—and finally leads him to Christ as his Saviour. Such agency is of incalculable worth, and by such means the great majority of conversions among the Natives have, under God's blessing, been effected. We cannot, therefore, too earnestly urge upon the friends of Missions the duty of looking in humble, earnest prayer to the great Lord of the harvest, that He would raise up, from men of this class, more labourers, and thrust them into the field,—for the harvest is great, and the labourers are still few.

CONVERSION OF A. CHIRMIAH.

"Before I became a Christian I was in the Hindoo religion, born of the Smith caste—a goldsmith. My father's name is A. Verranah: we lived in Solapurada-pattam—it is sixteen miles distant from this place. I have five brothers and one sister; but my mother died four months before I became a Christian. We have a good many relations, yet I have forsaken them all. I left them in order to get the pardon of my sins: we used formerly to worship idols; but I found my sins could not be pardoned by serving them. There is a village near my birthplace called Ankapilly. In this place there is a yearly feast of a certain goddess: on one occasion some people brought a caverdy load of books to distribute to the people. I asked one of them to give me a book; he did so; it was a tract, the name of which is 'Criticisms on the Hindoo Shastras.' This tract I took home and read; subsequently I used to go into Vizagapatam and visit Mr. Jagannatham's house, and

often got books from him. He used sometimes to speak to me: Mrs. J. also used to speak to me often and very kindly. I read the books they gave me very diligently. After I read those books I began to pray at home by myself. After some time I went again and saw Stephen, a Native Christian of the same caste; he prayed with me. I went home again and used to pray thus :- 'O merciful God, receive me. I believe that Thou art able to pardon all my sins. Thou alone art my refuge.' Thus seeking some silent place, no one being present, I would fall on my knees and pray there. I did not know much, therefore could not pray much. On a market day, I went into Vizagapatam and saw Stephen again. He said how happy we should all be if we trusted God and Jesus Christ; so he prayed with me again. He also told me that Poorshotum, the Catechist, would be much rejoiced if he knew I wished to be a Christian. As Poorshotum was absent on a tour, Stephen took me to see Mr. Gordon at Waltair. He gave me some instruction and advised me not to be in a hurry, and consider well what I was going to do; and on my going away he gave me a Gospel of Luke. So I went home once more, but I could not rest at home; so, taking advantage of the opportunity of my brother's going to Chimmachellem to worship the god there, I went to Vizagapatam again, and did not return. I have a wife at home. A few days after I came away, as soon as my father knew what I had done, he came to see me; as soon as he saw me he cried much, and very persuasively begged I would go back to him, and not bring such disgrace upon the Hindoo religion. I was firm, and told him I could not change my purpose, as I knew the Christian religion was the true one. After speaking and entreating me a long while in this way, he went away in sorrow.

"A few months after this, I felt anxious about my wife. I sent word to her to come to Vizagapatam. She at first said she would not, but afterwards said she would by and bye. Some time after this the Catechists, Poorshotum and Rungeah and myself all went together to my wife's village. They spoke to my wife about her following me; she said she would come after a few days, which she has now done, and we are now both happy, taken into the religion of Jesus Christ, and we wish to serve Him to the end of our days."

CONVERSION OF B. APPOODOO.

"My birthplace is Chittiontsali: my father's name is B. Naráyoodoo. We were accustomed to agriculture from my youth, and my father used to send me to school. We used to worship idols-at that time I knew nothing of Christianity. Catechist Poorshotum used to come to Chittiontsah to preach the Gospel. I heard him two or three times as he preached in this way, but I did not know at that time whether it was true or false, yet I left off serving idols and began to worship and pray to the true God thus: - 'O Father, I do not know who Thou art-I am a sinner-I do not know who Jesus Christ is. Grant me knowledge to ascertain Thy truth, and also grant me a knowledge of Thy Son Jesus Christ.' In this way I used to pray. It appeared to my mind that this was true. I told all this to P. Samuels. He told all this to David Poorshotum. He asked me how I knew all this. I then told him-' Your father used to come and preach here-I heard him two or three times. I then prayed to God, and I began to think what I heard was true.' Then David P. said-' Well, I will give you a Bible that contains the Word of God; if you will read it carefully you will understand; if you have any doubts on any part, come to me, and I will explain it as well as I can to you.' So I took the book and read it and used to pray, and the more I read and prayed, the more convinced I felt that

this religion was the true one, and the stronger was my desire to embrace it. I then thought that perhaps if I joined the Christian religion my relations and friends would mock and laugh at me, and would not let me come into their house, &c. After this I heard the Catechist Poorshotum preach; so I thought that there is nothing impossible with God, and that if I believed in Him, He would accomplish the desire of my heart. So from time to time I used to go to David P. and tell him my doubts, and we often prayed together. This circumstance became known to Poorshotum. He asked me how this thought came into my mind. I told him I heard him preach two or three times, and I prayed that I might know if it was true or false; I soon felt it to be true. He then told me some things to encourage and strengthen my mind. This fact became also known to Mr. Minchin. I went to him three times. He asked me how I thought about this matter, and why I wished to forsake my religion. To which I explained- Those who are in my religion do not serve and worship the true God—they worship many gods; but if we consider their actions, they show that they are not the true God; besides this, they worship many little idols which we cannot believe to be gods.' Mr. M. then said to me— 'Well, you say you wish to forsake your religion and to follow Christ-can you tell me who Jesus Christ is, and what He did for sinners?' I replied, 'Jesus Christ is God's only begotten Son. He gave His life as a sacrifice for our sins. He removed, by His death, the obstacles which our sins presented. All who put their trust in Him and turn their hearts to Him will receive eternal life, as God has promised in His Word.' Mr. M. then asked me if I believed all this with my whole heart. 'Yes,' I replied, 'I believe it all with my whole heart.'

"At first it was my wish to be baptized at Chittiontsah; but just about that time I lost my mother by cholera, and I was afraid my wishes would be frustrated

by my relations; so I came away one night to Vizagapatam.

"The next day my father and uncles came to see me, and tried to take me back again, and they offered to give me half their property, to the value of 100 rupees, if I would go back again with them; they even fell at my feet, and, with many tears, begged I would go back with them; but, by the grace of God, I remained firm. So now I am living with the Catechist Poorshotum, and learning more of the Word of God."

DEATH OF MR. EDWARD SAMUEL PORTER, MISSIONARY STUDENT.

It is with much regret we have to announce the removal by death of this amiable and promising young man. He was the son of our devoted Missionary the Rev. Edward Porter, of Cuddapah, East Indies, and was sent in his childhood to England for education. On leaving school he was apprenticed at Newbury, where, through the kind and salutary influence of his master, Mr. Blacket, aided by the instructions of his minister, the Rev. H. March, his decided religious convictions were received. Having at length evinced a strong predilection for the Missionary work, our young friend on leaving Newbury studied for two years at the Seminary at Bedford, under the care of the Revs. J. Jukes and W. Alliott. From

Bedford he was transferred in 1859 to Cheshunt College, where he since prosecuted his studies with diligence and success. But his health suddenly failing, and the fatal symptoms of consumption having become rapidly developed, he was removed to Hastings, and eventually to Bedford, where he died on Monday the 10th ult. at the age of 23. On the Saturday following, his mortal remains were interred in the cemetery at Bedford; the services being conducted by the Rev. J. Jukes, his former tutor in that town, assisted by the Rev. I. I. Insull. The Missionary students of the Seminary, to the number of twenty, followed him to the grave. Our young friend had it in his heart to carry the message of a Saviour's love to the distant heathen; but, though not permitted to embark in this enterprise, his surviving family and friends may rejoice in the thought that he now shares in the nobler work and worship of the heavenly temple.

ORDINATION OF MISSIONARIES.

CANTON, CHINA.

A PUBLIC religious service was held on Wednesday, the 18th December ulto., in the London Missionary Society's premises, Kam-li-fau, Canton, for the purpose of dedicating the Rev. F. S. Turner, B. A., by special prayer, to the ministry of the Gospel, according to the usage of the Independent Churches.

The preliminary discourse was delivered by the Rev. J. Chalmers, M.A., after which a confession of faith was made by the candidate.

The Rev. D. Vrooman offered the designating prayer, and the charge was delivered by the Rev. J. Legge, D.D. The service was attended by all the Missionaries and by other foreigners, and some Chinese. It was an interesting occasion, and left, we trust, a good and lasting impression on all present.

PEELTON, SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Thomas Brockway, who was sent out by the Directors in the year 1859, to assist the Rev. R. Birt at Peelton, South Africa, in the educational department of the Mission, was ordained to the work of the ministry on the first day of the present year. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. R. Birt, after which the Rev. J. Brownlee, of King William's Town, delivered the charge to the young Missionary. The service, which was one of great interest and deep religious feeling, was well attended by the natives, who seemed much impressed with its solemnity.

ORDINATION OF A MISSIONARY TO THE SOUTH SEAS. CHELMSFORD.

On Thursday, the 13th February, Mr. J. C. VIVIAN was ordained as a Missionary to the islands of the South Pacific, at the London Road Chapel Chelmsford. The service was commenced by the reading of the Scriptures and prayer, by the Rev. A. Buzacott, of Romford. The introductory address, describing the field of labour, was delivered by the Rev. W. Fairbrother. The usual questions were proposed by

the Rev. Thomas Morell, of Little Baddow. The answers of the candidate were highly satisfactory. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. G. Wilkinson, and an appropriate and impressive charge delivered by the Rev. John Frost of Cotton End, Bedfordshire, under whose care Mr. Vivian had for some time pursued his studies. The congregation was large, and the service deeply solemn and interesting.

ORDINATION OF MISSIONARIES TO MADAGASCAR.

READING.

The ordination of Mr. W. E. Cousins as a Missionary to Madagascar, was held in Castle Street Chapel, Reading, on Wednesday, Feb. 19th. After the reading of the Scriptures and prayer, by the Rev. J. Aldis, the introductory discourse, describing the island of Madagascar, and giving most interesting statements respecting its martyr Churches, was delivered by the Rev. W. Fairbrother. The questions were proposed by the Rev. S. Lepine, of Abingdon. The Rev. W. Legge, B.A., offered the ordination prayer. The charge to the young Missionary was delivered by his pastor, the Rev. T. G. Horton, from Rev. ii. 10: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." The Rev. James Rowland, of Henleyon-Thames, offered the concluding prayer.

PLYMOUTH.

Mr. ROBERT Toy, of Western College, was publicly ordained in Batter Street Chapel, Plymouth, on Wednesday, February 26th, as a Missionary (in connection with the London Missionary Society), to the island of Madagascar. The venerable sanctuary was crowded to overflowing by an attentive and deeply interested congregation. The service was commenced by the Rev. R. W. Carpenter, of Devonport, who read a chapter and engaged in prayer. The Rev. W. Guest, of Taunton, delivered an introductory address on Missions, with special reference to Madagascar. in which, in a clear, forcible, and telling manner, facts were adduced and principles enunciated which could not fail to stimulate and encourage the Missionary zeal of the audience, and to implant in their minds seeds which will bear good fruit in future years. The questions were proposed by the Rev. E. Hipwood, minister of the chapel, to which full, appropriate, and very interesting replies were given by the Missionary elect. The Rev. J. M. Charlton, M.A., President of the Western College, offered a fervent, affectionate, and impressive prayer, after which the Rev. R. P. Erlebach, of Mere, delivered an able charge from 1 Thess. ii. 3, 4. H. F. Holmes, of Devonport, concluded the solemn and impressive service with prayer.

DUNDEE.

A public service was held on Thursday, February 27th, in Ward Chapel, Dundee, for the purpose of setting apart Mr. John Duffus as a Missionary to Madagascar. The Rev. David Cook read the Scriptures and offered prayer; after which the Rev. W. Fairbrother delivered the introductory discourse, giving the history of the planting of the Church in Madagascar, with a narrative of the sufferings of the believers, and the progress of Christianity, since the departure of the Missionaries from the island. The usual questions were proposed by the Rev. J. Baxter. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. J. Masson. An affectionate and impressive charge was delivered by the Rev. R. Spence, M.A., the pastor of the Missionary, and the Rev. Thomas Neave, of Perth concluded the service.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES IN MAY, 1862.

THE Directors are gratified in announcing to the Friends and Members of the Society that they have made the following arrangements for the ensuing Anniversary:—

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 12th. Weigh House Chapel.

SERMON TO THE YOUNG, by the Rev. E. R. CONDER, M.A., of Leeds.

To commence at Seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14th.
MORNING.—SURREY CHAPEL.

SERMON by the Rev. ANDREW THOMSON, D.D., of Edinburgh.

Service to commence at half-past Ten o'clock.

EVENING.—TABERNACLE.
SERMON by the Rev. J. P. CHOWN, of Bradford.

To commence at Seven o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 15th.

MORNING.—ANNUAL MEETING—EXETER HALL.

Chair to be taken at Ten o'clock, by

Right Hon. LORD RADSTOCK.

EVENING.—JUVENILE MISSIONARY MEETING—POULTRY CHAPEL.

Chair to be taken at Six o'clock, by

G. J. COCKERELL, Esq., Sheriff of London and Middlesex.

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 16th.

THE LORD'S SUPPER will be administered in different Metropolitan Places of Worship.

LORD'S DAY, MAY 18th.

SERMONS will be preached on behalf of the Society, at various places of Worship in London and its Vicinity.

ARRIVALS IN ENGLAND.

Dr. Henderson, from Shanghae, February 26th.

Rev. Hugh Cowie, Rev. Robert Dawson, and Mrs. Dawson, per "Solent," March 8th.

ARRIVALS ABROAD.

The Rev. J. B. Coles, Mrs. Coles, and daughter, accompanied by Miss Cross, en route to Bellary; Mrs. Johnston, and two daughters, en route to Nundial; and Rev. A. Corbold, and Mrs. Corbold, arrived at Madras, per "Trafalgar," January 30th.

Rev. W. J. Gardner, arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, February 6th.

NEW YEAR'S SACRAMENTAL OFFERING TO THE WIDOWS' FUND.

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MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

From 17th February to 14	th March, 1862, inclusive.
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Trinity Chapel, per Rev. J.	Tarporley.	Missionary Prayer	Sunday School.
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Conected by—	MIS. Immoleoy 0 10	' I	Ramsey 1 2 3 Backden 0 3 4
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Mrs. Ewens 0 10 9	Miss E. Robarts 0 10	Collection by lateDr.	KENT.
Collected by Mrs. R. Smith	Miss Taylor 0 10	Boaz 2 13 Ditto Public Meet-	
"Ideah"(D.) 1 0 (Smaller Sums 0 7 (Exs. 34s. 7d.; 12l. 7s.	Sabbath School 2 19	ing	Blackheath, J. F. Thomas Esq 5 0 0
Exs. 31s. 7d.; 12l. 7s.	by Miss A. M. and	Old Meeting Sunday School 1 18	
Lymington. Legacy of late Mrs.		Collected by-	Zion Chapel.
E. Lewis 3 3	mons 4 13 Public Meeting 1 12 For Widows and	Miss Geard 0 18 Miss Simpson 0 3 1	11
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Portsea. Mile End Sabhath School, per Mrs. Rawson. 1 14	Orphans	6 Miss Jackson 0 5 Misses Paine, for School in South	Moiety of Contribu- tions 10 2 10
per mrs. may son, 114	- Hitchin.	Mrs Abbott for No.	
Overton. Rev. J. Gooby 0 17	Rev. W. Griffith.	tive Orphan Girl in Mrs. White-	Sandwich.
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	7 Society in aid of Missions		0 Exs., 9s. 6d.; 18l. 13s.
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Public Meeting and	Collected by Miss Kibley.	Mr. Joseph Cash 1 1 0 Mr. Flinn's Mis-	Rev. T. Hind. Sabbath Collections 8 15 6
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